

Unauthorized Use of Names

To the Editor:—Is there any possible way of stopping the publication of one's name by the Imperial Information Bureau of St. Paul, Minn., in the so-called *Expert*? Mine is published in the volume just issued (vol. xi, No. 1), absolutely without any authority; and the names of many excellent men throughout the country, who I am sure would not lend their names to such publication. Even the name of a physician dead three years is contained in the list. The lay mind can hardly realize how painful and unjust such a publication is to us.

ANDREW P. BIDDLE, Detroit.

Book Notices

NEW AND NONOFFICIAL REMEDIES, 1909. Containing Descriptions of the Articles Which Have Been Accepted by the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry of the American Medical Association, Prior to Jan. 1, 1909. Cloth. Pp. 168. Price, 50 cents. Chicago: American Medical Association, 103 Dearborn Ave.

This book and the quarterly supplements thereto which are to be published will be great time-savers to those physicians who have determined to use only such proprietary products as have been approved by the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry of the American Medical Association. This compilation is really the first regular edition and presents the work of the Council in a new dress and with some desirable advances. The classification adopted permits an easy comparison of remedies of similar origin and properties. The most significant changes are the relegation of mixtures to the appendix and the introduction of a number of non-proprietary remedies which for various reasons have not been admitted to the Pharmacopœia. Therapeutic indications are omitted on the assumption that the physician will be able to apply his knowledge of the properties of the ingredients without aid, either from the Council or from the manufacturers. The non-proprietary remedies admitted to the body of the work are described as accurately and carefully as a painstaking search of the literature will permit.

The descriptions of processes of preparation, physical and chemical properties and physiologic action, contain a wealth of information concerning nonofficial remedies that can not fail to be of immense value to pharmacists and physicians. It is to be regretted that it has been impossible for the Council to publish equally authoritative facts and opinions regarding the therapeutic properties of the synthetics placed before the medical profession. Here, however, the book must be interpreted as a representation in the main of the claims of the manufacturers. This fact is shown by the prevailing use of the phrases "it is claimed" and "it is said to be useful" applied in some cases to statements of the truth of which there can be little doubt, but for which the Council evidently did not wish to take the responsibility. While this cautious course is much the safest, it is to be regretted that, so far, little has been done to test these remedies in the practice of disinterested clinicians who could speak with authority as to their therapeutic value.

The book contains a description of over 200 distinct remedies. Some of these already have an assured position; others are likely to fall into disuse, but the true attitude toward them should be a readiness to try them critically rather than reject them in a spirit of nihilism. The work is convenient in size and yet presents all the essentials.

CLINICAL LECTURES AND ADDRESSES ON SURGERY. By C. B. Lockwood. Surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Flexible Cloth. Pp. 307. Price, \$1.50. New York: Oxford University Press, 1907.

This is the second edition of Lockwood's lectures and addresses, most of which have previously appeared in medical journals. The material, which includes such subjects as the essentials of diagnosis on intra-abdominal inflammations, the immediate microscopic diagnosis of tumors during the course of operations, the relation of clinical pathology to diagnosis and treatment, etc., is drawn almost entirely from Lockwood's personal experience. His easy colloquial, personal style is a pleasant variation from the more didactic tone of many

surgical text-books, even the occasional ramblings and diversions being interesting and profitable. In these later days of medical teaching, when the old plan of instruction by the preceptor has entirely gone out of vogue, we often miss the personal element in teaching due to the tendency to confine clinical work largely to laboratory methods. Such books as Lockwood's are not only full of instruction, but also possess an interest not always found in more formal writings.

CATARACT EXTRACTION. By H. Herbert, F.R.C.S., Professor of Ophthalmic Medicine and Surgery, Grant Medical College. Cloth. Pp. 391, with illustrations. Price, \$3.75. New York: William Wood & Co., 1908.

This complete work on cataract is timely now that we are hearing so much of the various methods of operating on cataract in India. Five thousand cataract extractions form the basis of the work. The illustrations are in black and white and give many interesting details of the various stages of operation. Detail is the keynote of the book, many points being brought forth which are too frequently left to the imagination in similar reports. The intracapsular operation revived by Major Smith of Jullundur is thoroughly discussed and the results compared with the intracapsular operations of other Indian surgeons, and also with the results of the more usual forms of extraction.

TREATMENT OF GONORRHEA IN THE FEMALE. By Charles Leedham-Green, M.B., F.R.C.P., Surgeon to the Queen's Hospital, Birmingham. Second Edition. Cloth. Price, \$2.00. Pp. 160. New York: William Wood & Co., 1908.

This handbook has been revised and a number of corrections and additions made. Of the latter are a description of Goldschmidt's new urethroscope, and a consideration of Bier's hyperemic treatment in gonorrheal arthritis. A number of new illustrations have been added to the text.

Queries and Minor Notes

ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATIONS will not be noticed. Queries for this column must be accompanied by the writer's name and address, but the request of the writer not to publish name or address will be faithfully observed.

HOMES COMMISSION REPORT

To the Editor:—In THE JOURNAL of March 13, page 895, reference is made to the "Report of the President's Homes Commission." How can I obtain this book?

C. F. HORNER, M.D., Tiskilwa, Ill.

ANSWER.—This report, which contains a vast amount of information of interest and value to physicians and to the public, is known as Senate Document No. 644. Write to your senator for a copy; if he fails to send one, write to the Superintendent, Senate Document Room, U. S. Senate, Washington, D. C.

DISINFECTION AFTER TUBERCULOSIS

To the Editor:—Please give information regarding the method of disinfection after death from tuberculosis. How should carpets and furniture be treated?

J. P. BRANDON, M.D., Essex, Mo.

ANSWER.—The best method of disinfection of the rooms is by formaldehyd gas and a very practical method of applying this agent is given in THE JOURNAL, July 14, 1906, p. 139. Other articles on the same subject appeared July 28, 1906, p. 288; August 18, p. 523; September 22, p. 952, and Jan. 12, 1907, p. 159. Carpets should be left in the room, and after the gaseous disinfection is over they should be subjected to thorough mechanical cleansing, and finally exposure to fresh air and sunshine if possible. The same treatment should be accorded to upholstered furniture. If parts of the carpet or furniture have been soiled by sputum or other discharges they should be wet with a strong solution of formaldehyd

UNTRAPPED SEWER-INLETS

To the Editor:—In a recent discussion pertaining to untrapped gullies a prominent manufacturer of sewer-pipe maintained that the sewer-gas escaping from these gullies or untrapped sewer-inlets placed at the edge of the sidewalk was practically innocuous to public health. While I am aware that sewer-gas is not as moribific as it was at one time held to be, and that flushing and ventilation palliate both the nuisance and the danger, I held that these inlets on the street and alley corners should be trapped. The odors issuing from them are often very offensive, and it seems self-evident